

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:
image forming means which forms an image on a
recording material;

5 fixing means which fixes the image formed on
the recording material; and

recording material conveying means which is
provided at a downstream side of said fixing means in
a moving direction of the recording material, the
10 conveying means including a first roller having a
first shaft and a second roller having a second shaft
and maintained in contact with said first roller;

wherein said second roller includes a first
portion provided in a vicinity of a passing reference
15 of the recording material and maintained in contact
with said first roller, and a second portion
positioned farther from the reference than the first
portion and having a diameter smaller than that of
the first portion.

20

2. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the second portion has a gap to said
first roller.

25 3. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein a difference in diameters of the
second portion and the first portion is equal to or

larger than 0.8 mm and equal to or smaller than 1.8 mm.

4. An image forming apparatus according to
5 claim 1, wherein the first portion includes an elastic layer and a surface releasing layer covering the elastic layer, and the second portion does not include a surface releasing layer whereby an elastic layer is exposed.

10

5. An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in case said image forming means forms the image only on one side of the recording material, said first roller is in contact with the
15 image.

6. An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first roller has a continuous shape without a division along the first shaft, while
20 said second roller has a shape divided into plural portions along said second shaft.

7. An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first roller has a continuous
25 shape without a division along the first shaft, while said second roller has a shape divided into plural portions along said second shaft and becoming smaller

in diameter as a distance from the reference increases.

8. An image forming apparatus according to
5 claim 1, wherein the second portion is provided within a passing area of the recording material.

9. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the first portion has a width, along
10 said second shaft, equal to or larger than $1/3$ of a passing area of the recording material.

10. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said conveying means is provided
15 immediately behind said fixing means, in the moving direction of the recording material.

11. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said second shaft is provided, at an
20 end portion thereof, with a gear for receiving a driving power from a drive source provided in said apparatus, and said first roller rotates following a rotation of said second roller.

25 12. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said apparatus is also capable of forming an image on a rear side of the recording

material by reversing the recording material.

13. An image fixing apparatus comprising:

fixing means which fixes an image formed on a
5 recording material; and

recording material conveying means which is
provided at a downstream side of said fixing means in
a moving direction of the recording material, the
conveying means including a first roller having a
10 first shaft and a second roller having a second shaft
and maintained in contact with said first roller;

wherein said second roller includes a first
portion provided in a vicinity of a passing reference
of the recording material and maintained in contact
15 with said first roller, and a second portion
positioned farther from the reference than the first
portion and having a diameter smaller than that of
the first portion.